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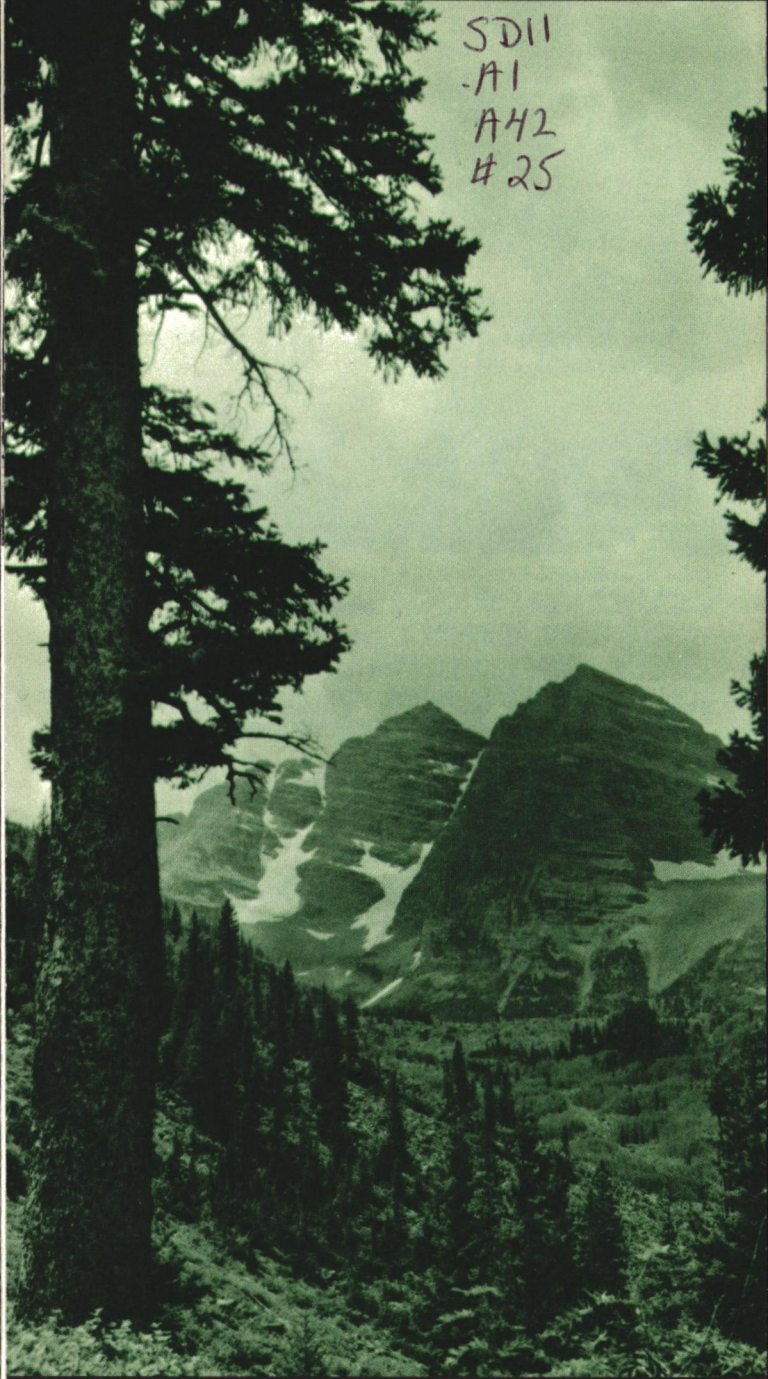


The National Forests

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
FS-25

Chinese Wall, Bob Marshall Wilderness, Lewis and Clark National Forest, Montana

Wilderness is the America that was—wild land that shaped the growth of the Nation. Once it covered all the land. It was the great region beyond the frontier. But the Nation grew and pushed back the frontier. Men used the land, and it ceased to be wilderness.

Now wilderness has vanished from much of the country, and we value that which remains. Fortunately there are within the National Forests many of the finest examples of the American wilderness. Shown on this map are those units that are managed by the Forest Service to protect their wilderness resource. They total 14.6 million acres, an area nearly the size of West Virginia.

These areas are administered under provisions of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (Public Law 88-577), in which Congress has recognized the wilderness resource as a valued part of our Nation's heritage. Fifty-four units with about 9 million acres initially comprised the entire National Wilderness Preservation System established by the act. They included all former Wilderness and Wild Areas and the Boundary Water Canoe Area previously established under regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition, other areas have been added.

The Wilderness Act was new in 1964, but the idea behind it is not. In effect, the act confirmed the wilderness concept which had been pioneered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service 40 years earlier.

By January 1, 1974, eleven new units have been added to the System—totaling 1,588,371 acres. In addition 12 other areas totaling 1,462,274 acres have been recommended to Congress for Wilderness classification. The 11 remaining Primitive Areas (2,387,426 acres) are being studied to determine their suitability or nonsuitability for wilderness classification.

The Forest Service has also reviewed all other National Forest lands to determine those other areas which warrant additional study for wilderness classification. Some 274 areas have been identified for future study.

The first step toward this wilderness system was made back in 1924, when the Forest Service set aside a special area of the Gila National Forest in New Mexico to protect its wilderness resource. This and other early wilderness actions were based on regional decisions that were later standardized as Department of Agriculture regulations were developed and refined. Under the various regulations four types of areas have been administered as wilderness by the Forest Service: Primitive, wilderness, wild, and canoe areas. In all of these areas, wilderness or primitive character was the basic resource for which they were managed.

Primitive Areas were established between 1930 and 1939 under former regulation L-20, which

The Sawtooth Primitive Area, Idaho

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is dedicated to the principle of multiple use management of the Nation's forest resources for sustained yield. Through forestry research, cooperation with the States and private forest owners, and management of the National Forests and National Grasslands, it strives—as directed by Congress—to provide increasingly greater service to a growing Nation.

WILDERNESS - GENERAL

authorized the Chief of the Forest Service to establish areas where primitive conditions of environment would be maintained. The regulation did not prohibit resource developments that were then considered compatible with wilderness. In 1939 regulation L-20 was revoked and replaced by the more restrictive regulations U-1 and U-2, which provided for Wilderness and Wild Areas. At that time a program was begun to study and reclassify the 72 established Primitive Areas either to Wilderness and Wild Areas or to other resource uses, each decision depending on the predominant resource values and the long-term public benefit. Many Primitive Areas became Wilderness or Wild Areas and are now units of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The remaining Primitive Areas will continue to be administered as wilderness until they are reviewed and acted on under terms of the Wilderness Act.

Wilderness and Wild Areas were established under the Secretary of Agriculture's Regulations U-1 and U-2, respectively. The areas differed only in size and in the authority required for their designation. Regulation U-1 provided for Wilderness Areas of 100,000 acres or more, to be designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. Regulation U-2 provided for Wild Areas between 5,000 and 100,000 acres in size, to be designated by the Chief of the Forest Service. Both regulations provided for identical administration. Natural conditions of environment were preserved. Commercial timber harvesting, roads, motor travel, or any permanent development were prohibited within the areas except where necessary for essential administrative activities.

Curtain Falls, Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Superior National Forest, Minnesota

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area in northern Minnesota is unique in the Wilderness System. It is protected not only by the Wilderness Act, but by the Shipstead-Newton-Nolan Act of 1930, an Executive Order of the President, an international agreement, and other special legislation and directives. Management of the area prohibits encroachments that would destroy its primitive character; at the same time it provides for some resource use away from lakeshores and waterways in designated portions of the area. The Wilderness Act places the Canoe Area in the National Wilderness Preservation System, but also recognizes its special nature and authorizes continuation of management under existing legislation and the Secretary of Agriculture's regulations. The Canoe Area's primitive values are greatly enhanced by the adjoining Quetico Provincial Park in Canada, which is also managed as outstanding canoe country.

The signing of the Wilderness Act marked no sudden change in the administration of these areas; rather it was the confirmation of this long-established program as a national policy expressed in the will of Congress. What was once governed only by administrative regulation is now placed under the full force of Federal law. Although the act made no change in the basic wilderness concept, it stands as a landmark in the progress of conservation.

In specific application, the act covers all the essential aspects of wilderness preservation and management. (1) It defines wilderness and sets clear standards as to what areas may be considered for such classification. (2) With a nucleus of National Forest Wilderness, Wild, and Canoe Areas, it establishes the National Wilderness Preservation System. (3) It prescribes a 10-year review period to consider for possible inclusion in the system all Primitive Areas in the National Forests administered by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, and potential areas administered by the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. On the basis of the reviews, the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior will submit recommendations to the President for transmittal to Congress. (4) It limits resource uses and physical developments within all units of the National Wilderness Preservation System. (5) It provides for additions to the system by act of Congress. Every unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System is administered by the agency that managed the area before it was classified as wilderness.

Long Lake, Bridger Wilderness, Bridger National Forest, Wyoming

What is wilderness? Neither the Wilderness Act nor statistical data will explain to the average person what wilderness is or why it is important. A colored portion of a map tells little of the actual country or its effect on people who visit it. Those who have known wilderness need no explanation; those who have not known it find only a hint in printed words and pictures.

The essence of the wilderness resource is the experience that a person derives from it. To some extent wilderness is a link with our heritage of the frontier—an opportunity for a discovery or renewal of something already within us. You might call it an aloneness, a detachment from normal cares and responsibilities, or a renewed feeling of one's place in nature. But to every man wilderness offers a personal experience that adds a new dimension to his character. So that people may always discover this experience—which has no substitute—the wilderness shown on this map has been set aside.

People discover wilderness in many places and in many ways. For some it may be just a day's hike through the forested Linville Gorge in North Carolina, or a climb above timberline on Oregon's Three Sisters Wilderness. Others may explore the rugged vastness of the Bob Marshall Wilderness in Montana, or search for the famous Lost Dutchman Mine in the Superstition Wilderness of Arizona. For those who know the land, these areas evoke the names of famous men: Lewis and Clark, Coronado, Cochise, Jim Bridger, Jed Smith, Chief Joseph, John Muir, and many others who gave color and substance to our history.

Good hunting and fishing are found in most of the National Forest Wildernesses, all of which are open in season under State laws. Clear lakes and pure streams provide excellent fishing in most. Within the wilderness are whitetail, blacktail, and mule deer, elk, bighorn, mountain goat, javelina, and bear. For the scientist and nature student, the geology and ecology of these remote places guarantee many hours of fascinating study. And for everyone there is solitude in the midst of unparalleled, natural scenery.

This brochure map may help you decide where to go to discover wilderness and a new experience. For additional information write to the appropriate Forest Service Regional Office or Forest Supervisor, or to the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Maps and brochures for individual National Forests are available which show wilderness and primitive areas. Two other brochures of specific interest that are available are "Backpacking in the National Forests" (PA–585) and "Search for Solitude" (PA–942).*

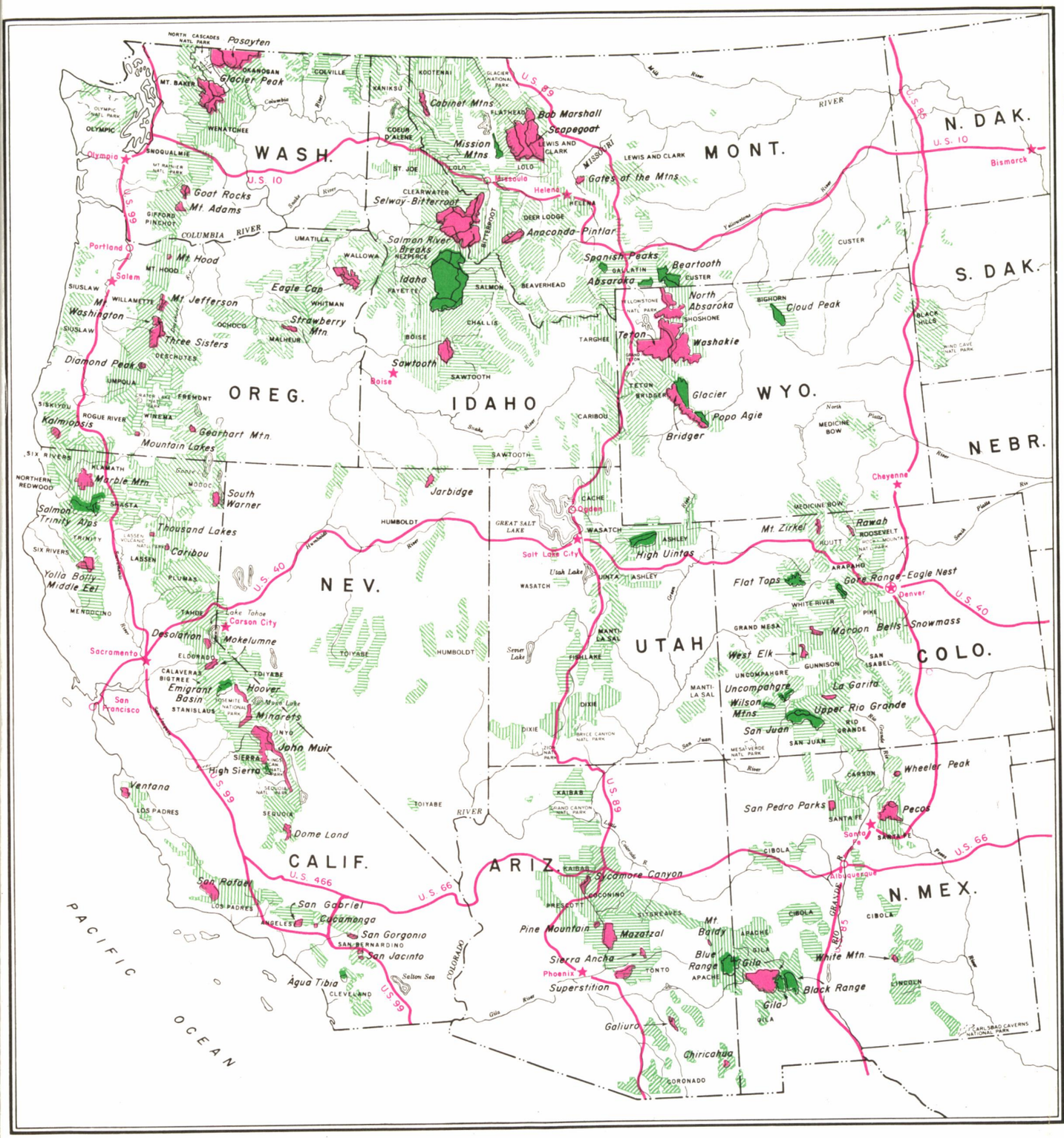
Regional Headquarters, USDA Forest Service, and Wilderness (W) and Primitive Areas (P).

Northern Region (1)
Federal Bldg.
Missoula, Mont. 59801

Absaroka (P)
Anaconda-Pintlar (W)
Beartooth (P)
Bob Marshall (W)
Cabinet Mountains (W)
Gates of the Mountains (W)
Mission Mountains (P)
Salmon River Breaks (P)
Scapegoat (W)
Selway-Bitterroot (W)
Spanish Peaks (P)

Rocky Mountain Region (2)
Federal Center, Bldg. 85
Denver, Colo. 80225

*Available from Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: PA–585, 25c, PA–942, 65c



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESSES AND PRIMITIVE AREAS

AUGUST 1974

WILDERNESSES
(UNITS OF THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM)

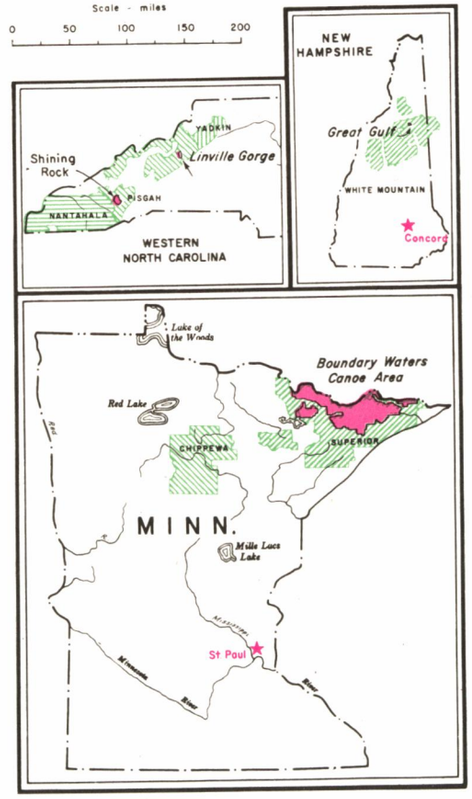
PRIMITIVE AREAS

NATIONAL FORESTS AND PURCHASE UNITS

★ STATE CAPITALS

○ REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Scale - miles
0 50 100 150 200



Issued April 1965
Slightly revised August 1974

Cottonwood Lake in the John Muir Wilderness, California

Cloud Peak (P)
Flat Tops (P)
Glacier (P)
Gore Range-Eagle Nest (P)
La Garita (W)
Maroon Bells-Snowmass (W)
Mt. Zirkel (W)
North Absaroka (W)
Popo Agie (P)
Rawah (W)
San Juan (P)
Uncompahgre (P)
Upper Rio Grande (P)
Washakie (W)
West Elk (W)
Wilson Mountains (P)

Southwestern Region (3)

Federal Bldg., 517 Gold Ave. SW.
Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87101

Black Range (P)
Blue Range (P)
Chiricahua (W)
Galiuro (W)
Gila (W & P)
Mazatzal (W)
Mount Baldy (W)
Pecos (W)
Pine Mountain (W)
San Pedro Parks (W)
Sierra Ancha (W)
Superstition (W)
Sycamore Canyon (W)
Wheeler Peak (W)
White Mountain (W)

Intermountain Region (4)

Federal Office Bldg.
Ogden, Utah 84401

Bridger (W)
High Uintas (P)
Hoover (also in Region 5) (W)
Idaho (P)
Jarbidge (W)
Sawtooth (W)
Teton (W)

California Region (5)

630 Sansome St.
San Francisco, Calif. 94111

Agua Tibia (P)
Caribou (W)
Cucamonga (W)
Desolation (W)
Dome Land (W)
Emigrant Basin (P)
High Sierra (P)
Hoover (also in Region 4) (W)
John Muir (W)
Marble Mountain (W)
Minarets (W)
Mokelumne (W)
Salmon Trinity Alps (P)
San Gabriel (W)
San Gorgonio (W)
San Jacinto (W)
San Rafael (W)
South Warner (W)
Thousand Lakes (W)
Ventana (W)
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel (W)

Pacific Northwest Region (6)

Post Office Box 3623
319 SW. Pine St.
Portland, Oreg. 97208

Diamond Peak (W)
Eagle Cap (W)
Gearhart Mountain (W)
Glacier Peak (W)
Goat Rocks (W)
Kalmiopsis (W)
Mount Adams (W)
Mount Hood (W)
Mount Jefferson (W)
Mount Washington (W)
Mountain Lakes (W)
Pasayten (W)
Strawberry Mountain (W)
Three Sisters (W)

Southern Region (8)

Suite 800, 1720 Peachtree Rd.
Atlanta, Ga. 30309

Linville Gorge (W)
Shining Rock (W)

Eastern Region (9)

633 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53203

Boundary Waters Canoe Area (W)
Great Gulf (W)

Alaska Region (10)

Federal Office Bldg., Box 1628
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Topographic map coverage is available for some wilderness units. For information about available maps, write to the U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Center, Denver, Colo., 80225. Be sure to state the exact location of the area in which you are interested.

For information on guide and outfitter services write to the appropriate local Chamber of Commerce.

Among groups publishing useful information about wilderness travel are:

Club	*Area*
Adirondack Mountain Club..... R.D. 1, Ridge Road, Glen Falls, N.Y. 12801	New York State
Appalachian Mountain Club..... 5 Joy St., Boston, Mass.	New England, particularly New Hampshire and Maine
Appalachian Trail Conference..... 1718 N Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20036	Appalachian Trail from Maine to Georgia (has list of Eastern Clubs)
Green Mountain Club..... 108 Merchants Row, Rutland, Vt.	Vermont
Mazamas ..... 909 NW. 19th Ave., Portland, Oreg.	The Pacific Northwest
The Sierra Club..... Mills Tower Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.	The Sierra
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs..... 201 S. Ashdale St., West Covina, Calif.	Can give addresses of 36 member clubs
Wilderness Society..... 729 15th St. NW., Washington, D.C. 20005	Wilderness throughout the United States

Don't overlook State agencies for Recreation, or Planning and Development, as a source of information.

National Forest Wilderness and Primitive Areas as of January 1974

State	Wildernesses		Primitive Areas	
	Number of Units	*Net Area (Acres)*	*Number of Units*	*Net Area (Acres)*
Arizona	8	495,614	1*	173,712
California	17	1,600,930	4	357,242
Colorado	5	280,104	6	532,092
Idaho	2*	1,205,071	2	1,441,603
Minnesota	1	747,840	—	.....
Montana	6*	1,721,862	4	418,461
Nevada	1	64,667	0	0
New Hampshire	1	5,552	0	0
New Mexico	5	679,436	3*	136,571
North Carolina	2	20,925	0	0
Oregon	10	842,182	0	0
Utah	—	.....	1	237,177
Washington	4	1,084,818	0	0
Wyoming	4	1,989,034	3	384,528
Total	65	10,740,706	23	3,881,386

*Includes unit also located in an adjacent State. Total adjusted.

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